METHOD OF FABRICATING PTFE MATERIAL

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of manufacturing PTFE material includes preparing a mixture of PTFE resin powder and a susceptor material which is compacted and sintered by exciting the susceptor material with microwave energy. Preferably, the compaction and sintering of the mixture is carried out in a continuous process and a vacuum is drawn on the mixture in the heating zone to extract any air from the mixture. The sintered mixture may be advanced, preferably continuously, to a cutting zone where the PTFE material may be cut to any desired length preferably while the mixture is still warm to produce anywhere from thin wafer PTFE components to long tubular PTFE hose, or the like.